



## Convenient analogies for an inconvenient truth

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### Abstract:

Improving the health of individuals and populations while assuring the sustainability of modern healthcare systems requires a greater commitment to chronic disease prevention and management. In Canada, national challenges in the management of health care systems, such as prolonged wait times, have benefited from targeted federal investment, with provincial and territorial collaboration in the development and implementation of local strategies. The lead paper "An Inconvenient Truth: A Sustainable Healthcare System Requires Chronic Disease Prevention and Management Transformation," makes a sound argument for a similar investment toward the epidemic of chronic disease. Any strategy that might emerge from such a federal commitment ought to recognize two fundamentally important issues. First, as chronic disease prevention and management activities are largely community-based (rather than hospital or facility-based), Canada has an opportunity to move beyond a potentially disparate collection of provincial and territorial approaches to a truly national strategy. Second, and more important, effective chronic disease prevention and management will only be achievable if we reframe the challenge as a societal issue, not simply a health system concern. This reframing exercise might benefit from a greater understanding of how societal responses to other crises, such as global warming, have been triggered or accelerated.

### Resource Description

#### Communication: ☒

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change;  
surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

#### Communication Audience: ☒

audience to whom the resource is directed

Health Professional

#### Exposure : ☒

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Unspecified Exposure

#### Geographic Feature: ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

# Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

None or Unspecified

## **Geographic Location:**

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

**Non-United States:** Non-U.S. North America

## **Health Impact:**

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Health Outcome Unspecified

## **Intervention:**

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

## **Medical Community Engagement:**

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

## **Mitigation/Adaptation:**

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

## **Resource Type:**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

## **Timescale:**

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified